

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A pants garment, comprising:

(A) left and right thigh leg members for covering the left and right thigh areas of a wearer, each thigh leg member independently comprising a first thigh stretchable portion and a second thigh stretchable portion,

wherein said second thigh stretchable portions have a greater tightening force for applying greater pressure than said first thigh stretchable portions, ~~; wherein said second thigh stretchable portions and independently comprise: include~~

(a) a front thigh elastic band member provided substantially at a front side of each of the thigh leg members, said front thigh elastic band member extending obliquely from an upper front portion to a lower front portion of each thigh leg member, and

(b) a back thigh elastic band member provided substantially at a back side of each of the thigh leg members, said back thigh elastic band member extending obliquely from an upper back portion to a lower back portion of each thigh leg member, and

(c) optionally (i) an intermediate elastic band member extending obliquely from a middle portion of the front thigh elastic band member to an inner lower portion of the thigh leg member, (ii) an intermediate elastic band member extending obliquely from a middle portion of the front thigh elastic band member to an inner upper portion of the thigh leg member, (iii) an intermediate elastic band member extending obliquely from a middle portion of the back thigh elastic band member to an inner lower portion of the thigh leg member, (iv) an intermediate elastic band member extending obliquely from a middle portion of the back thigh elastic band member to an outer upper portion of the thigh leg

~~member, (v) an intermediate elastic band member extending obliquely from a middle portion of the back thigh elastic band member to an outer lower portion of the thigh leg member, (vi) an intermediate elastic band member extending obliquely from a middle portion of the back thigh elastic band member to an inner upper portion of the thigh leg member, or (vii) any combination of any of (e)(i), (e)(ii), (e)(iii), (e)(iv), (e)(v), and (e)(vi);~~

~~— (d) optionally a second back thigh elastic band member extending from an outer portion to an inner portion of said thigh leg member, such that the first and second back thigh elastic bands on said thigh member cross each other; and~~

~~— (e) optionally, an above the knee elastic band member provided at a portion of the thigh leg member corresponding to an area that spans from inside the knee to above the knee to outside of the knee; and~~

~~(B) optionally, left and right crus leg members respectively attached to said left and right thigh leg members, for covering the left and right crus areas of a wearer, each crus leg member independently comprising a first crus stretchable portion and a second crus stretchable portion, wherein said second crus stretchable portions have a greater tightening force for greater applying pressure than said second crus stretchable portions;~~

~~wherein said second crus stretchable portions independently comprise:~~

~~— (a) a front crus elastic band member provided substantially at a front of each crus leg member, said front crus elastic band member extending obliquely from an upper front portion to a lower front portion of said crus leg member;~~

- ____ (b) a back crus elastic band member provided substantially at a back side of the crus leg member, said back crus elastic band member extending obliquely from an upper back portion to a lower back portion of said crus leg member; or
- ____ (c) optionally, a below the knee elastic band member provided at a portion of the thigh leg member corresponding to an area that spans from inside the knee to below the knee to outside the knee; or
- ____ (d) any combination of any of (B)(a), (B)(b), and (B)(c);
- ____ (C) optionally, left and right pelvic members attached to said thigh members for covering the right and left pelvic areas of a wearer;
- ____ (D) optionally, an abdomen member attached to said pelvic members for covering the abdominal area of a wearer; and
- ____ (E) optionally, a waist member attached to (i) said thigh leg members, (ii) said pelvic members, (iii) said abdominal member, or (iv) any combination of any of (E)(i), (E)(ii), and (E)(iii), for circumscribing the waist of the wearer.

2. (Currently amended) A garment as defined in claim 1, wherein at least either one of the left thigh leg member or the right thigh leg member has [(i)] the front thigh elastic band member and the back thigh elastic band member of the left thigh leg member incline inclined in opposite directions, (ii) the front thigh elastic band member and the back thigh elastic band member of the right thigh leg member incline in opposite directions, or (iii) the front thigh elastic band member and the back thigh elastic band member of the left thigh leg member incline in opposite directions

~~and the front thigh elastic band member and the back thigh elastic band member of the right thigh leg member incline in opposite directions.~~

3. (Currently amended) A garment as defined in claim 1, wherein at least either one of the left thigh leg member or the right thigh leg member has [(i)] the front thigh elastic band member and the back thigh elastic band member ~~of the left thigh leg member incline inclined~~ in the same direction, ~~(ii) the front thigh elastic band member and the back thigh elastic band member of the right thigh leg member incline in the same direction, or (iii) the front thigh elastic band member and the back thigh elastic band member of the left thigh leg member incline in the same direction and the front thigh elastic band member and the back thigh elastic band member of the right thigh leg member incline in the same direction.~~

4. (Original) A garment as defined in claim 1, wherein for each thigh leg member, the front thigh elastic band member and the back thigh elastic band member meet at least at an inner lower portion of the thigh leg member.

5. (Original) A garment as defined in claim 1, wherein for each thigh leg member, the front thigh elastic band member and the back thigh elastic band member meet at least at an outer lower portion of the thigh leg member.

6. (Currently amended) A garment as defined in claim 1, wherein at least either one of the left thigh leg member or the right thigh leg member has [(i)] the front thigh elastic band member

~~of the left thigh leg member extends extending~~ to a position corresponding to the left or right greater trochanter of a wearer, respectively (ii) ~~the front thigh elastic band member of the right thigh leg member extends to a position corresponding to the right greater trochanter of a wearer, or (iii) the front thigh elastic band member of the left thigh leg member extends to a position corresponding to the left greater trochanter of a wearer and the front thigh elastic band member of the right thigh leg member extends to a position corresponding to the right greater trochanter of a wearer.~~

7. (Currently amended) A garment as defined in claim 1, wherein at least either one of the left thigh leg member or the right thigh leg member has [(i)] ~~the front thigh elastic band member of the left thigh member extends extending~~ from an inner upper portion to an outer lower portion of the left or right thigh leg member, respectively (ii) ~~the front thigh elastic band member of the right thigh member extends from an inner upper portion to an outer lower portion of the right thigh leg member, or (iii) the front thigh elastic band member of the left thigh member extends from an inner upper portion to an outer lower portion of the left thigh leg member and the front thigh elastic band member of the right thigh member extends from an inner upper portion to an outer lower portion of the right thigh leg member.~~

8. (Currently amended) A garment as defined in claim 1, wherein at least either one of the left thigh leg member or the right thigh leg member has [(i)] ~~the front thigh elastic band member of the left thigh member extends extending~~ from an outer upper portion to an inner lower portion of the left or right thigh leg member, respectively (ii) ~~the front thigh elastic band member of the right thigh member extends from an outer upper portion to an inner lower portion of the right thigh leg member.~~

~~member, or (iii) the front thigh elastic band member of the left thigh member extends from an outer upper portion to an inner lower portion of the left thigh leg member and the front thigh elastic band member of the right thigh member extends from an outer upper portion to an inner lower portion of the right thigh leg member.~~

9. (Original) A garment as defined in claim 1, wherein the intermediate elastic band member is narrower in width than the front thigh elastic band member or the back thigh elastic band member.

10. (Original) A garment as defined in claim 1, wherein the intermediate elastic band member is broader in width than the front thigh elastic band member or the back thigh elastic band member.

11. (Original) A garment as defined in claim 1, wherein intermediate elastic band member extends to a portion of the garment corresponding to approximately an outer side of the knee of a wearer.

12. (Original) A garment as defined in claim 1, wherein intermediate elastic band member extends to a portion of the garment corresponding to approximately an inner side of the knee of a wearer.

13. (Original) A garment as defined in claim 1, wherein the intermediate elastic band member extends to a portion of the garment approximately corresponding to an inside of the knee of a wearer to connect to the back thigh elastic band member.

14. (Original) A garment as defined in claim 1, wherein the intermediate elastic band member extends to an portion of the garment corresponding to an outside of the knee of a wearer to connect to the back thigh elastic band member.

15. (Original) A garment as defined in claim 1, wherein the back thigh elastic band member extends from an inner upper portion to an outer lower portion of each thigh leg member.

16. (Original) A garment as defined in claim 1, wherein the back thigh elastic band member extends from an outer upper portion to an inner lower portion of each thigh leg member.

17. (Original) A garment as defined in claim 1, wherein the front and back crus elastic band members are joined at a portion of the crus leg member corresponding to at least either an inside of a knee or an outside of the knee.

18. (Original) A garment as defined in claim 1, wherein said below-the-knee elastic band member forms a V-shape.

19. (Original) A garment as defined in claim 1, wherein said above-the-knee elastic band member forming an upside down V-shape.

20. (Original) A garment as defined in claim 1, wherein one or both thigh leg members has a hem part formed in a portion corresponding to the area above the corresponding knee of a wearer, and at least either a lower end of the front thigh elastic band member or of the back thigh elastic band member is located at the hem part.

21. (Original) A garment as defined in claim 1, wherein each front thigh elastic band member extends from a lower inner part of the corresponding thigh leg member to an upper outer part of said thigh leg member and widens to cover a side portion of the waist member.

22. (Original) A garment as defined in claim 1, wherein the front crus elastic band member and the back crus elastic band member incline in opposite directions.

23. (Original) A garment as defined in claim 1, wherein the front crus elastic band member and the back crus elastic band member incline in the same direction.

24. (Currently amended) A garment as defined in claim 1, wherein the front crus elastic band member and the back crus elastic band member are continuous at least either at [[(i)]] an inner portion of the crus leg member, or at [[(ii)]] an outer portion of the crus leg member, ~~or (iii) a combination of (i) and (ii).~~

25. (Original) A garment as defined in claim 1, wherein the below-the-knee elastic band member has a greater tightening force for applying greater pressure than the crus leg member.

26. (Currently amended) A garment as defined in claim 1, wherein the below-the-knee elastic band member further extends to a portion of the corresponding crus leg member at least either at (i) an inner side of a corresponding ankle, or at [[(ii)]] an outer side of a corresponding the ankle, ~~or (iii) a combination of (i) and (ii).~~

27. (Original) A garment as defined in claim 1, wherein a portion of a thigh leg member at an upper side of a corresponding knee has a lower tightening force for applying pressure than the corresponding below-the-knee elastic band member.

28. (Original) A garment as defined in claim 1, wherein the front thigh elastic band member extends from the lower part of the inside of the corresponding thigh to the corresponding greater trochanter via the upper part of the front surface of the corresponding thigh, and wherein said front thigh elastic band member is curved in an indented shape toward the upper part of the corresponding thigh.

29. (Original) A garment with a crotch for covering at least part of the lower half of a body, comprising:

a band-like pressure portion at least has, at a front side portion corresponding to the front side of a thigh, a thigh front side pressure portion formed obliquely from above to below the front side portion, and, at a rear side portion corresponding to the rear side of the thigh, a thigh rear side pressure portion formed obliquely from above to below the rear side portion.

30. (Original) A garment with a crotch for covering at least part of a lower half of a body, comprising:

a band-like pressure portion at least has, at a front side portion corresponding to a front side of a crus, a crus front side pressure portion formed obliquely from above to below the front side portion and, at a rear side portion corresponding to a rear side of the crus, a crus rear side pressure portion formed obliquely from above to below the rear side portion.

31 (New) A garment as defined in claim 1, wherein said second thigh stretchable portions independently further comprises at least one of:

an intermediate elastic band member extending obliquely from a middle portion of the front thigh elastic band member to an inner lower portion of the thigh leg member;

an intermediate elastic band member extending obliquely from a middle portion of the front thigh elastic band member to an inner upper portion of the thigh leg member;

an intermediate elastic band member extending obliquely from a middle portion of the back thigh elastic band member to an inner lower portion of the thigh leg member;

an intermediate elastic band member extending obliquely from a middle portion of the back thigh elastic band member to an outer upper portion of the thigh leg member;

an intermediate elastic band member extending obliquely from a middle portion of the back thigh elastic band member to an outer lower portion of the thigh leg member; and

an intermediate elastic band member extending obliquely from a middle portion of the back thigh elastic band member to an inner upper portion of the thigh leg member.

32 (New) A garment as defined in claim 1, wherein said second thigh stretchable portions independently further comprises:

a second back thigh elastic band member extending from an outer portion to an inner portion of said thigh leg member, such that the first and second back thigh elastic bands on said thigh member cross each other.

33 (New) A garment as defined in claim 1, wherein said second thigh stretchable portions independently further comprises:

an above-the-knee elastic band member provided at a portion of the thigh leg member corresponding to an area that spans from inside the knee to above the knee to outside of the knee.

34 (New) A garment as defined in claim 1, further comprising:

left and right crus leg members respectively attached to said left and right thigh leg members, for covering the left and right crus areas of a wearer, each crus leg member independently comprising a first crus stretchable portion and a second crus stretchable portion,

wherein said second crus stretchable portions have a greater tightening force for greater applying pressure than said second crus stretchable portions, and independently include at least one of

a front crus elastic band member provided substantially at a front of each crus leg member, said front crus elastic band member extending obliquely from an upper front portion to a lower front portion of said crus leg member,

a back crus elastic band member provided substantially at a back side of the crus leg member, said back crus elastic band member extending obliquely from an upper back portion to a lower back portion of said crus leg member, and

a below-the-knee elastic band member provided at a portion of the thigh leg member corresponding to an area that spans from inside the knee to below the knee to outside the knee.

35 (New) A garment as defined in claim 1, further comprising:

left and right pelvic members attached to said thigh members for covering the right and left pelvic areas of a wearer.

36 (New) A garment as defined in claim 1, further comprising:

an abdomen member attached to said pelvic members for covering the abdominal area of a wearer.

37 (New) A garment as defined in claim 1, further comprising:

a waist member attached to at least one of said thigh leg members, said pelvic members, and said abdominal member, for circumscribing the waist of the wearer.